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From: Shelton-Davenport, Marilee

Sent: Thur 6/1/2017 8:36:05 PM

Subject: Update on Environmental Health Initiative at The National Academies
[EH Initiative Mtg Summary FINAL.PDF](#)
[Environmental Health Matters Initiative Concept Paper.pdf](#)

Dear Colleagues,

Once again, I would like to thank you for your participating in the February Environmental Health Meeting at The National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine. The meeting participants coalesced around the need for environmental health leadership and the need to address complex environmental health challenges by developing new approaches to connect disciplines, sectors and policy spheres. The enthusiastic discussions of participants are captured in the attached meeting summary. Pages 4-7 distill the conversation, with details captured in appendices. In short, the meeting elucidated a variety of needs and confirmed that thought leaders of the community believe a new National Academies leadership model is needed in environmental health.

After a good deal of analysis, the National Academies is ready to begin a new effort which we are calling the “Environmental Health Matters Initiative”. The attached white paper is intended to capture, in broad strokes, why the National Academies is developing a new initiative to connect disciplines, sectors and policy spheres. Operationally, our plan is to start the effort off slowly with an interim pilot phase while creating new mechanisms and building a critical mass of participants to support the activity and identify specific crosscutting challenges to address.

For those of you who may be interested in supporting the activity, we will have a conference call in several weeks to present our draft operational model, get your input, and answer any questions you might have. Please let us know if you would like to participate, so we can take your availability into account when scheduling this call.

Please also consider pointing us to leaders in foundations and the private sector who have interests that align with this effort.

We look forward to hearing from you and welcome your comments and questions.

Sincerely,

Marilee

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